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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I recently discovered that USTelecom has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to dismantle key components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

I am currently doing business with a small internet/communications provider in San Francisco, CA, that will be affected by reducing competitive access to communications services. This will likely limit my ability to continue doing business, or expand my services, with my current provider. The proposed changes will limit the possibility that my current service provider could expand into other locations, like Fresno/Clovis, CA, so I and my family can access their services in those locations. I have found that competing service providers have provided my residence and my businesses with superior services and support compared to larger companies such as AT&T or Comcast, and have provided me with the ability to leverage the influence of my own telecom service provider, to improve the service and support I ultimately receive.

I understand that you are still considering this issue, and encourage you to support the competing telecom carriers, and not to limit competitive access and the consumers ability to choose smaller competing telecommunications providers. I am a residential telecom services subscriber and would be "materially affected" by proposed changes to the 1996 Telecommunications Act. In fact, the effects would be profound, because continued access to UNE services is a key part of a small telecommunications companys ability to deploy and provide innovative services and technology for their customers, while deploying fiber for additional customer demand. Without continued access to copper lines, competing providers wont be able to compete on an even footing. And, once fiber networks are built, UNEs are still used they connect from city to city and are the key backhaul for fiber networks.

A competitive market ensures that consumers will have access to choose the best possible service at the best possible price, without limiting a competing companys ability to deploy more fiber and hindering them from providing customers with the most innovative services and support.

I oppose the USTelecom petition and encourage the FCC to deny the proposed changes to the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

Regards,

Scott McDonald